

June 6, 1994

JUN 13 1993

OSH Docket No. H-122  
Room N-2625  
200 Constitution Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20210

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RE: Smoking Ban

To Whom it May Concern;

I believe the "Ban" that is currently being proposed is totally inappropriate and a violation of our rights as a US Citizen. I have been working in a healthcare environment for the past 10 years. We are a non-smoking organization, and must smoke outside of the building. I feel that is appropriate for this type of business, since many people enter our facility not by choice.


Smoking is a choice. A choice that as a Citizen of the US we should have a right to. I DO NOT believe it is appropriate to ban smoking from restaurants or bars. Restaurants and bars are individually/privately owned businesses, therefore, this should be the choice of the owners whether or not they permit smoking, not the government. Restaurants and bars are places that people go to by choice, unlike a healthcare facility. If a person chooses to dine at a restaurant or frequent a bar, then that is their choice to enter a place where smoking is permitted. I support the choice of a smoking and a non-smoking area in a restaurant. Bars, that is a different story, the majority of people that frequent a night club or bar are willingly entering with the knowledge of others within smoking. I feel that it would be totally inappropriate to ban smoking in a bar or night club. As the current law stands, restaurants must furnish a non-smoking area (these areas are usually always larger then the smoking area). I feel this is more then accommodating to the non-smokers.

We have cracked down hard on people drinking and driving, but, the government did not ban alcohol from public places. Drugs are illegal in the US, but that hasn't stopped drug trafficking. Alcohol and Drugs, unlike cigarettes, are mind altering, therefore, changing the attitude and personality of most when under the influence. I feel that alcohol and drug abuse is a much more severe issue then smoking. More people are killed by drunk drivers and people under the influence of alcohol and drugs per year, then by a smoker. Therefore, under the current laws I feel that non-smokers have already prevailed.

I feel that effort should be moved to stopping drug's/drug trafficking and gang violence. These are the major problems and issues facing the US today. More children are killed by gang violence in the US then by others smoking around them. More children are inflicted with disabilities at childbirth by a mothers consumption of alcohol or drugs during pregnancy then while smoking during pregnancy. Let's start getting to the root of our nations real problems, DRUGS & GANGS. This is where our government should get concerned. We need to regroup and refocus where our priorities are and when it comes to protecting our younger generations, let's worry about them walking a block to school without a bullet in their back!

Smoking is a right, a right we have always had, and a right that we should be able to have!

In close, the proposed regulations are outrageously tough and prejudice.

  
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